

Message Text

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TO GOV GUAM AGANA

GOV/AMSAMOA PAGO PAGO

HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN

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DOAT NO. 007-GU

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, TQ, AQ, GQ

SUBJ: SELECTION OF NEW GOVERNOR FOR AMERICAN SAMOA.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. GOV/GUAM: PASS TO PACIFIC DAILY NEWS, PACIFIC DATELINE AND PIM.
2. HICOMTERPACIS: PASS TO MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE.
3. GOV/AMSAMOA: PASS TO SAMOA NEWS, SAMOA SUN AND OSI.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A NEWS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY. QUOTE: OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, FOR RELEASE JANUARY 28, 1975, EARL B. RUTH NAMED GOVERNOR OF AMERICAN SAMOA. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR ROGERS C.B. MORTON TODAY ANNOUNCED THE SELECTION OF DR. EARL BAKER RUTH TO BE GOVERNOR OF AMERICAN SAMOA. DR. RUTH, 58, WAS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S

EIGHTH DISTRICT(1968-74), WHERE HE SERVED ON THE APPROPRIATIONS, THE UNCLASSIFIED

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VETERANS AFFAIRS AND THE EDUCATION AND LABOR COMMITTEES.

HE SUCCEES JOHN M. HAYDON, WHO HAD BEEN GOVERNOR OF SAMOA FOR OVER FIVE YEARS.

THE POST IS APPOINTIVE BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR. SAMOA CAME UNDER THE U.S. FLAG IN 1900, AND WAS ADMINISTERED AS A NAVAL STATION UNTIL 1951. IT HAD BEEN UNDER INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIONS SINCE 1951, DURING WHICH PERIOD AN ELECTIVE BICAMERAL LEGISLATURE HAS DEVELOPED. THREE REFERENDA WERE HELD DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS PROVIDING FOR AN ELECTIVE GOVERNOR BUT THE SAMOAN ELECTORATE REJECTED THE OPTION EACH TIME.

DR. RUTH, WHO HOLDS A DOCTORAL DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, WAS DEAN OF STUDENTS AT CATAWBA COLLEGE, SALISBURY, N.C. PRIOR TO HIS ELECTION TO CONGRESS. ACTIVE IN LOCAL GOVERNORMENT, HE SERVED THREE TERMS ON THE SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL AND WAS MAYOR PRO TEM

FROM JUNE 1967 TO NOVEMBER 1968. HIS CAREER HAS ALSO INCLUDED STATE PARK ADMINISTRATION AS WELL AS HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE TEACHING.

A VETERAN OF WORLD WAR II, DR. RUTH SERVED IN THE PACIFIC AS A LIEUTENANT IN THE NAVY FROM 1942 TO 1945. HE IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER JANE WILEY OF CHARLOTTE, N.C. THEY HAVE THREE MARRIED DAUGHTERS AND ONE MARRIED SON. END OF QUOTE. DOTA SENDS. KISSINGER

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